

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1 - 2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) A component according to claim 2 18, wherein said non-linear array comprises an arcuate array of teardrop shaped assemblies.

4. (currently amended) A component according to claim 2 18, wherein each of said teardrop shaped assemblies has an arcuate leading edge, two flat portions adjacent said leading edge, and two angled portions connected to said flat portions and to each other.

5 - 7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) A component according to claim 7 18, wherein said pedestal array has a spanwise variable density.

9. (currently amended) A component according to claim 7 18, wherein each said coolant outlet is aligned with one of said pedestals in said pedestal array so that coolant fluid exiting said coolant outlet impinges on said one pedestal.

10. (currently amended) A component according to claim 7 18, wherein said pedestal array comprises a plurality of pedestals defining a plurality of fluid passageways which extend between

said coolant outlets and said injection slots formed by said teardrop shaped assemblies.

11. (original) A component according to claim 10, wherein each of said fluid passageways formed by said pedestal array is substantially aligned with a coolant injection slot formed by adjacent ones of said teardrop assemblies.

12. (original) A component according to claim 10, wherein at least one of said plurality of pedestals in said pedestal array is aligned along an axis which coincides with a central longitudinal axis of a teardrop shaped assembly.

13. (original) A component according to claim 10, wherein a plurality of said pedestals in said pedestal array is aligned along an axis which coincides with a central longitudinal axis of a teardrop shaped assembly.

14. (currently amended) A component according to claim 18, wherein said trailing edge is non-linear.

15. (currently amended) A component according to claim 18, wherein said trailing edge is arcuately shaped.

16. (currently amended) A component according to claim 18, wherein said component is a blade for use in a gas turbine engine.

17. (currently amended) A component according to claim 18, wherein said component is a vane for use in a gas turbine engine.

18. (new) A component for use in a gas turbine engine comprising:

an airfoil portion having a trailing edge;

a coolant passageway having a plurality of coolant outlets formed by a plurality of spaced apart ribs;

means for maximizing thermal performance of said component by reducing a relative diffusion angle between an injected coolant flow and a streamline direction of a fluid passing over said airfoil portion;

said maximizing means comprising a non-linear array of teardrop shaped assemblies positioned adjacent said trailing edge and said teardrop shaped assemblies forming a plurality of injection slots for injecting a fan shaped coolant flow into said fluid passing over said airfoil portion;

a pedestal array intermediate said coolant passageway and said trailing edge; and

each said teardrop shaped assembly having a central longitudinal axis aligned with an axis of a respective coolant outlet formed by two of said spaced apart ribs.

19. (new) A component for use in a gas turbine engine comprising:

an airfoil portion having a trailing edge;

a coolant passageway having a plurality of coolant outlets formed by a plurality of spaced apart ribs;

a pedestal array intermediate said coolant passageway and said trailing edge;

said pedestal array having a spanwise variable density; and

an arcuate array of teardrop shaped assemblies positioned adjacent said trailing edge and forming an arcuate array of injection slots for injecting a fan shaped coolant flow into said fluid passing over said airfoil portion.

20. (new) The component of claim 19, further comprising each said teardrop shaped assembly having a central longitudinal axis and said central longitudinal axis being aligned with an axis of a respective coolant outlet formed by two of said spaced apart ribs.

21. (new) The component of claim 19, wherein each said coolant outlet is aligned with one of said pedestals in said pedestal array so coolant fluid exiting said coolant outlet impinges on said one pedestal.

22. (new) The component of claim 19, wherein said pedestal array comprises a plurality of pedestals defining a plurality of fluid passageways which extend between said coolant outlets and said injection slots and wherein each of said fluid passageways is substantially aligned with a coolant injection slot formed by adjacent ones of said teardrop assemblies.

23. (new) The component according to claim 22, wherein at least one of said plurality of pedestals in said pedestal array is aligned along an axis which coincides with a central longitudinal axis of a teardrop shaped assembly.

24. (new) The component according to claim 22, wherein a plurality of pedestals in said pedestal array is aligned along an axis which coincides with a central longitudinal axis of a teardrop shaped assembly.